

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 14230 031719Z

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGRE-00 AID-05 EB-08 ICA-20 COME-00

TRSE-00 ABF-01 OMB-01 L-03 SS-15 SP-02 AF-10

ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-10 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

/138 W

-----078102 040933Z /21

R 031413Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4655

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

UNCLAS ROME 14230

FODAG

KUALA LUMPUR FOR USDEL JOHN BAKER

FOR PAUL BYRNES, IO/AGR

PASS USDA FOR KRIESBERG

PASS AID FOR SALES

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, EFIN, MY

SUBJ: FAO 1980-81 BUDGET: GENEVA GROUP ROME POSITION

REF: A. KUALA LUMPUR 7935, B. CRUIT/MORA TELCON 1 AUG 78

1. PER REF A, FODAG CABLING TEXT OF JULY 20 BAKER/BYRNES LTR,
WHICH AS NOT RECEIVED PER REF B. BEGIN TEXT.

1. I ENCLOSE RELEVANT DOCUMENTATION EMERGING FROM LAST THREE
MEETINGS OF GENEVA GROUP. YOU WILL SEE FROM THEM THAT WE
HAVE MANAGED TO GET CLOSE TO AGREEMENT ON POSITION ADVOCATING
2 PERCENT NET REAL GROWTH LIMIT ON 1980-81 FAO BUDGET.

2. THIS HAS BEEN DONE AT COST OF ACCEPTING RELATIVELY HIGH BASE,
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E.G. \$210 MILLION. I, THEREFORE, MADE CLEAR THAT I THOUGHT IT
UNLIKELY THAT U.S. COULD ACCEPT A \$210 MILLION BASE UNLESS WHOLE
GROUP AGREED ON 2 PERCENT LIMIT. IF YOU APPLY 2 PERCENT ANNUALLY
TO \$210 MILLION, YOU GET UP TO A \$218.3 FOR 1980-81(PRIOR TO
ADDITIONS FOR INFLATION AND/OR CURRENCY EXCHANGE FACTORS). WHEN
YOU FIGURE THAT THE 1978-79 BUDGET WAS \$211.350,000 AND THAT
CONFERENCE AGREED ON COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE PROGRAM WHICH, WHEN IN

PLACE, WILL COST AND ADDED \$2 MILLION AT LEAST IN 1978-79 TERMS WHEN EXTENDED INTO 1980-81, WE ARE ACTUALLY SAYING TO DG THAT HE MUST LIMIT GROWTH IN 1978-79 TERMS TO ABOUT \$5 MILLION FOR BIENNIAL, E.G. ABOUT 2.5 PERCENT OF 1978-79 BUDGET.

3. I REALIZE OUR PROCESS OF ARRIVING AT THIS POINT DOES SOME VIOLENCE TO SAFPBA METHODOLOGY. BUT IF WE TRY TO RUN THE GENEVA GROUP AND WEST THROUGH THE SAFPBA DRILL, WE WILL WIND UP NOWHERE BY SEPTEMBER WHICH IS DEADLINE, IN MY VIEW, FOR PRESENTING GENEVA GROUP POSITION TO DG.

4. I HOPE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE THIS POINT TO OUR FINANCIAL ACES. WE HERE SACRIFICED METHODOLOGY FOR EARLY ACTION ON WHAT I HOPE WILL BE UNITED AND EFFECTIVE BASIS. WE WILL CONTINUE TO PURSUE DATA WE WILL NEED FOR SAFPBA APPROACH AND FOR MORE DETAILED DISCUSSION OF BUDGET WHICH WILL ENSUE IN 1979. HAVING SUCH DATA WILL, I HOPE, PERMIT US TO ILLUSTRATE THAT, IN PRACTICE, WE HAVE BEEN GENEROUS, NOT STINGY WITH THE FAO, ESPECIALLY GIVEN OUR RESERVATIONS ABOUT \$211,350,000 BUDGET WE STARTED FROM. /SIGNED JOHN A. BAKER/ END TEXT.HOLMES

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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